

B10 a selector which selects a predetermined unit of information from the stream data received by the receptor according to a request from a user;

a file I/O controller which controls a file device and outputs the predetermined unit of information selected by the selector to the file device; and

a transmitter which either transmits the predetermined unit of information selected by the selector to a terminal device having information reproduction function or to the file device while executing a predetermined processing, according to a limitation set by an amount of transmission data per unit of time based on a distribution condition of a local area network.

B11 2. (Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the stream data is constructed with information in a packet unit, and a packet identifier for identifying data in a packet is added to each packet, and the selector extracts the predetermined unit of information which is requested from the user by referring to the packet identifier.

B12 5. (Amended) The system according to claim 1 wherein the selector outputs the stream data received from the receptor to the file I/O controller when either a recording request is received from the user or a predetermined recording condition is met, and the file device stores the stream data received from the selector.

B13 6. (Twice Amended) A stream distribution system comprising: a stream distribution server, a plurality of terminal devices each having an information reproduction function, and a local area network connecting both of the stream distribution server and the plurality of terminal devices, wherein

the stream distribution server targets the stream data comprising information in a packet unit, wherein an identifier to identify the type of data in the packet is added to each packet, the stream distribution system further comprising:

a plurality of reception means for receiving the stream data transmitted through a broadcasting network or a communication network;

selection means capable of connecting the plurality of reception means, for mixing or re-multiplexing a plurality of the stream data input from the reception means, and for selecting and extracting a predetermined unit of information which coincides with a request for sending and recording received from the terminal device by referring to the identifier to identify the predetermined unit of information which forms the stream data;

filter means for controlling an amount of transmission data per unit of time to be output to the terminal device;

transmission means for transmitting the selected and extracted information to the terminal device by using the filter means to adjust the transmission band of the stream data received from the selection means based on a limitation on a predetermined data transmission band; and

file I/O means for controlling a file device under management of the stream distribution server and for outputting information selected by the selection means to the file device, wherein

the selection means branches and distributes the selected and extracted information to the transmission means or to the file I/O means corresponding to the terminal device.

10. (Amended) The stream distribution system according to claim 6, wherein the file I/O means and the transmission means are controlled according to a storage data reading request from the terminal device, and the stream data stored in the file device are transmitted to the terminal device through the file I/O means, the selection means and the transmission means.

17. (New) A system for distributing stream data after executing a predetermined processing of the stream data from an external network, comprising:

a receptor which receives the stream data transmitted through a broadcasting network,

a selector which selects a predetermined unit of information from the stream data received by the receptor according to a request from a user; and

a transmitter which transmits the predetermined unit of information selected by the selector to a terminal device having an information reproduction function while executing a predetermined processing according to a limitation set by an amount of transmission data per unit of time based on a distribution condition of a local area network.

18. (New) The system according to claim 17, further comprising a filter which executes the predetermined processing to control the amount of transmission data per unit of time for outputting to at least one of a file device and the terminal device.

19. (New) The system according to claim 17, wherein the distribution condition is changed dynamically according to a use state of the local area network.

20. (New) The system according to claim 19, wherein the predetermined unit of information is transmitted to the terminal device through one or more transmitters selected by the selector.

21. (New) The system according to claim 19, wherein the local area network is installed in an ordinary home.

22. (New) The system according to claim 19, wherein the predetermined unit of information includes at least one of video, audio, static image, and character information.

23. (New) The system according to claim 19, wherein when the use state of the local area network is such that there is not enough room in the amount of transmission data and the

request from the user is for the stream data at a High Definition Level, the transmitter transmits reduced stream data.

24. (New) The system according to claim 23, wherein the reduced stream data comprises the stream data at a Standard Definition Level.

25. (New) A system for distributing stream data after executing a predetermined processing of the stream data from an external network, comprising:

a receptor which receives the stream data transmitted through at least one of a broadcasting network and a communication network;

a selector which selects a predetermined unit of information corresponding to sub-stream data forming part of the stream data received by the receptor according to a request from a user;

B15 a file I/O controller which controls a file device and outputs the predetermined unit of information corresponding to the sub-stream data selected by the selector to the file device;

a filter which executes the predetermined processing to control an amount of transmission data per unit of time for outputting the sub-stream data to at least one of the file device and a terminal device having an information reproduction function; and

a transmitter which transmits the predetermined unit of information corresponding to the sub-stream data selected by the selector to either the terminal device or to the file device, while the filter is executing the predetermined processing based on a distribution condition of a local area network.

26. (New) The system according to claim 25, wherein the sub-stream data comprise one of video stream, audio stream, static image, and character information.

27. (New) The system according to claim 25, wherein the file I/O controller is capable of outputting stored information in the file device to the selector when either a request

for the outputting is received from the user or the distribution condition of a local area network permits the outputting.

28. (New) The system according to claim 25, wherein the filter executes the predetermined processing to control an amount of transmission data per unit of time by using a priority table describing the correspondence between identification information identifying the predetermined unit and a packet priority for each packet unit in the sub-stream data so as to conform with a limitation on a transmission band based on the packet priority.

29. (New) The system according to claim 28, further comprising:

a setting part which sets a limitation on a transmission band allocated to the terminal device according to a use state of the local area network between the transmitter and the terminal device and for setting the priority table included in the filter, wherein

B15 the transmitter receives the stream data from the selector, and transmits the stream data to the terminal device after using the filter to adjust an amount of transmission data to conform with limitation on the transmission band set by the setting part.

30. (New) The system according to claim 29, wherein the setting part controls the selector, the file I/O controller, and the transmitter according to a storage data reading request from the terminal device, and transmits the stream data stored in the file device to the terminal device through the file I/O controller, the selector, and the transmitter.

31. (New) The system according to claim 29, wherein the receptor is capable of receiving program information relating to the stream data through at least one of the broadcasting network and the communication network, further comprising:

a content information management part which manages the program information multiplexed in the stream data and manages information relating to the stream data stored in the file device as content information; wherein

the setting part accepts a request for sending the content information; and
the requested content information is sent to the terminal device.

32. (New) The system according to claim 25, further comprising:

a setting part which sets a limitation on the transmission band allocated to at least one of
the terminal device and the file device according to a use state of the local area network, wherein
the setting part accepts a sending request or a storing request from a user; and
the selector outputs the stream data received from the receptor or the file I/O controller to
the transmitter upon receipt of the sending request, or to the file I/O controller upon receipt of the
storing request.

33. (New) The system according to claim 25, further comprising:

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a setting part which determines whether transmission of the stream data to at least one of
the terminal device and the file device is valid or invalid based on a flag information, wherein
the setting part accepts a pause request or a resume request from the user; and
the selector pauses transmission of the stream data to the terminal device by turning off
the flag information according to the pause request, and restarts transmission of the stream data
by turning on the flag information according to the resume request.

34. (New) The system according to claim 33, wherein

the setting part is capable of controlling the selector;
the selector is capable of interrupting transmission of the stream data to the terminal
device according to the pause request and the selector is capable of outputting the stream data to
the file device through the file I/O controller according to the pause request, wherein
the selector, according to the resume request, outputs the stream data which have been
stored and/or have not been transmitted to the terminal device by a first-in-first-out processing in
parallel with storing the stream data in the file device through the file I/O controller.

35. (New) The system according to claim 33, wherein
when a recording request is accepted by the setting part, the setting part inquires whether
requested stream data is under recording or not in the file device;

if the requested stream data is not under recording, the selector outputs the requested
stream data to the file I/O controller for storing, and

if the stream requested data is under recording already, the selector does not output the
requested stream data for preventing an overlap recording.

36. (New) The system according to claim 25, wherein when the amount of
transmission data is reduced by the filter, the original stream data before reduction are stored in
the file device while the reduced stream data are sent to the terminal device.

B15 37. (New) The system according to claim 25, wherein the distribution condition is
changed dynamically according to a use state of the local area network.

38. (New) The system according to claim 25, wherein the predetermined unit of
information is transmitted to the terminal device through one or more transmitters selected by the
selector.

39. (New) The system according to claim 25, wherein the local area network is
installed in an ordinary home.

40. (New) The system according to claim 25, wherein the predetermined unit of
information includes at least one of video, audio, static image, and character information.

41. (New) The system according to claim 25, wherein when a use state of the local
area network is such that there is not enough room in the amount of transmission data and a
request from the user is received for sending the stream data at a High Definition Level to the
terminal device, the transmitter transmits reduced stream data.

42. (New) The system according to claim 41, wherein the reduced stream data comprise stream data at a Standard Definition Level.

43. (New) A system for distributing stream data after executing a predetermined processing of the stream data from an external network, comprising:

a receptor which receives the stream data transmitted through at least one of a broadcasting network and a communication network;

a selector which selects a predetermined unit of information corresponding to sub-stream data forming part of the stream data received by the receptor according to a request from a user;

a filter which executes the predetermined processing to control an amount of transmission data per unit of time for outputting the sub-stream data to a terminal device having an information reproduction function; and

B15 a transmitter which transmits the predetermined unit of information corresponding to the sub-stream data selected by the selector to the terminal device, while the filter is executing the predetermined processing based on a distribution condition of a local area network.

44. (New) The system according to claim 43, wherein the sub-stream data comprise one of video stream, audio stream, static image, and character information.

45. (New) The system according to claim 43, wherein the distribution condition is changed dynamically according to a use state of the local area network.

46. (New) The system according to claim 43, wherein the predetermined unit of information is transmitted to the terminal device through one or more transmitters selected by the selector.

47. (New) The system according to claim 43, wherein the local area network is installed in an ordinary home.

48. (New) The system according to claim 43, wherein the predetermined unit of information includes at least one of video, audio, static image, and character information.

49. (New) The system according to claim 43, wherein when a use state of the local area network is such that there is not enough room in the amount of transmission data and a request from the user is received for sending the stream data at a High Definition Level to the terminal device, the transmitter transmits reduced stream data.

50. (New) The system according to claim 49, wherein the reduced stream data comprise stream data at a Standard Definition Level.
